

Statement of A.D. Frazier
Nominee to the board of directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority before the
U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety
Tuesday, November 28, 2017

Chairman Capito, Ranking Member Whitehouse and distinguished members of the committee, I would like to thank you for your consideration of my nomination and for this opportunity to appear before you today.

My name is A.D. Frazier.

I am honored to have been nominated by President Trump to serve on the board of directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Being asked to serve on the TVA board is an honor because my home is in Mineral Bluff, Georgia – in the North Georgia Mountains, about 100 miles from Atlanta.

I mention this because Mineral Bluff is just six miles from Blue Ridge, Georgia. In my opinion, it is one of the most beautiful places that TVA serves.

TVA's Blue Ridge Dam, on the Toccoa River, is just a few miles from my home. The Toccoa is actually the headwaters of the Ocoee River. The name simply changes when it crosses the state line into the Peach State.

You may have heard of the Ocoee River because of the 1996 Olympics whitewater competitions. When I was Chief Operating Officer and second-in-command of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games, we worked closely with TVA to ensure the Ocoee River had the appropriate flow for the whitewater events. And, I am proud to say, every river event that was watched by people around the world was made possible because of the dedicated employees of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

But, aside from the Olympics, I am honored to be associated with the Tennessee Valley Authority because of TVA's mission of service to improve the lives of the 9 million people of the Tennessee Valley. I am excited to be considered for a seat on the board of directors because it would provide me the opportunity to help ensure TVA continues its good works.

My work with corporate and consumer lending, mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, strategic planning, corporate governance, human resource management and marketing has shown me the importance of quality public education and a trained or trainable work force.

Actually, my entire 35-year career in executive business management has taught me the importance of TVA's work.

As president of Georgia Oak Partners, LLC, my associates and I provide the right tools and resources to help companies grow faster. As president and Chief Executive Officer of INVESCO, Inc., we helped people and companies from around the world to make smart business investments to achieve their financial objectives. And, when I served as chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Danka Business Systems, we provided technology solutions to businesses from around the world.

Earlier in my career, as chairman of the board of Gold Kist, Inc.; as president and Chief Operating Officer of Caremark Rx, Inc.; and, as chairman of the board and Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Stock Exchange – and even as a board member for Fortune 500 Company Apache Corporation; Gevity, Inc.; Rock Tenn Corp.; and, R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. – each of my experiences has reinforced the importance the need for having a trained or trainable labor force, and quality K-through-12 public education.

TVA supports our public schools through programs such as its robotics programs that teach students in our public schools the practical aspects of math and science.

TVA also has successful programs that help bring much-needed jobs to the region. They are doing this by working with state and local governments and non-governmental agencies, and by helping our young people to be better prepared for the jobs of tomorrow.

By helping to bring in a variety of employers to the Valley, TVA is helping to diversify employment opportunities by providing opportunities for a trained and trainable labor force. This is particularly important because a broad industrial base allows for greater opportunities for career growth and economic diversity. And, that helps everyone.

In my opinion, TVA's efforts in just the last five years have helped to increase the number of companies that have decided to locate to the region. And these companies are bringing much-needed jobs.

I am confident my business experiences have prepared me for the opportunity to serve as a member of the board of directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority. I firmly believe in TVA's commitment to doing the right things for the region: to provide reliable electric power to the citizens and businesses of the Valley, responsibly manage its public lands and water, and fulfill its mission to make life better through its economic development efforts.

Mr. Chairman and members of this committee, I welcome this opportunity to be considered to serve on the TVA board of directors and respectfully request your support of my nomination.

Thank you for your consideration and for providing me this opportunity to be here with you today.